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DIRECTORATE OF
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State Dept. review completed

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Italy-Canada-Communist China: Efforts to achieve
recognition continue.

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ITALY - CANADA - COMMUNIST CHINA: CANADA AND POSSIBLY ITALY CONTINUE TO MOVE TOWARD RECOGNITION OF COMMUNIST CHINA.

CANADA AND COMMUNIST CHINA NOW ARE EXPECTED TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING RECOGNITION IN STOCKHOLM IN MID-MAY. DURING A PRELIMINARY MEETING WITH THE CANADIANS IN STOCKHOLM LAST FEBRUARY, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE CHINESE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WILL DEMAND CANADIAN RECOGNITION OF PEKING'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER TAIWAN AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR THE CPR'S "RIGHTFUL PLACE" IN THE UN.

ACCORDING TO A BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFI-

[REDACTED] ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER NENNI PLANS TO SEND A "POLITICAL LEADER" TO PEKING TO CONTINUE ITALY'S RECOGNITION TALKS BEGUN EARLIER THIS YEAR IN PARIS. THE EMISSARY WOULD ARRIVE FOR THE OPENING OF THE CANTON FAIR, SCHEDULED FOR 15 APRIL. THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS RECENTLY COMMENTED THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNIST REPRESENTATIVES WITH WHOM HE HAD BEEN DEALING SEEMED TO BE IN NO HURRY TO ARRANGE AN EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

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NENNI, MOREOVER, TOLD DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER LUNS IN MID-MARCH THAT PEKING HAD NOT REACTED TO ITALIAN OVERTURES. THE BELGIAN OFFICIAL NEVERTHELESS EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT ITALY WILL COMPLETE ITS TALKS AND ANNOUNCE RECOGNITION BEFORE CANADA DOES.

THE BELGIAN OFFICIAL SAID THAT IF BOTH CANADA AND ITALY MET PEKING'S CONDITIONS, THERE WOULD BE PRESSURE FOR BELGIUM TO DO LIKEWISE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT FOREIGN MINISTER HARMEI WAS ON RECORD THAT HE WOULD NOT BREAK RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN AND WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE EXPULSION OF TAIWAN FROM THE UN.

(continued)

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THE SOVIET CHARGE IN BRUSSELS HAS RECENTLY APPROACHED BELGIAN OFFICIALS TO SAY THAT MOSCOW "UNDERSTOOD AND APPROVED" HARMEL'S POSITION ON SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS OF TAIWAN. A LUXEMBOURG OFFICIAL HAS ALSO HEARD THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN TALKING TO THE CHINESE NATIONALISTS, INDICATING INDIRECTLY THAT MOSCOW WOULD NOT BE ADVERSE TO "TWO CHINAS."

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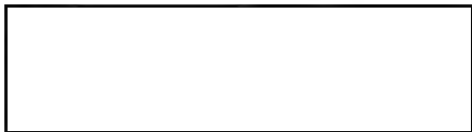
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